RIBEIRO et al Appl. No. 10/576,874 May 1, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Early and favorable Action on the merits is respectfully requested:

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Michelle N. Lester

Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100